



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held January 30, 2007, the Board took the following action:

S-1

Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health, presented the attached report to the Board relating to trans fat regulation and calorie labeling, and presented a proposal developed by the Department of Public Health for a voluntary, incentive-based program for trans fat reduction in food sold in retail food facilities to regulate the use of trans fat in establishments within Los Angeles County.

Rosa Soto, Regional Director, California Center for Public Health Advocacy, and Matthew Sharp, California Food Policy Advocates, addressed the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“On December 12, 2006, the Board approved my motion instructing the Director of Public Health, in consultation with County Counsel, to investigate the issues of trans fat regulation and calorie labeling and report back to the Board with findings and recommendations within 45 days. Based on this investigation, County Counsel has advised that State law would likely preclude the County from regulating retail food facilities by either limiting the amount of trans fat in food or requiring facilities to post nutritional content information.

“In view of the lack of legal authority, the Department of Public Health has proposed a voluntary incentive-based program for restaurants, a program for the County’s own cafeterias, and support of pending State legislation.

“I understand that, at the State level, there are currently bills introduced that would regulate trans fat in retail food facilities, require calorie labeling, and would give localities the authority to institute such regulations. Given the public health importance of heart disease and the obesity epidemic in our communities, I do not believe we can afford to wait to take action. In the absence of a legal authority to regulate trans fats and calorie labeling, I think it is important that we move ahead with a voluntary program as described in the Department of Public Health’s report.”

(Continued on Page 2)

S-1 (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions as recommended by the Director of Public Health in his January 26, 2007 report:

1. Instructed the Director of Public Health to develop for Board review and approval within 45 days, a voluntary, incentive-based program for trans fat reduction in food sold in retail food facilities;
2. Instructed the Director of Public Health to work with the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and County Counsel to develop contract language which will require operators of food facilities which prepare and serve food in County buildings to comply with limits on trans fats in servings; and
3. Went on record in support of State legislation that would:
  - Restrict the amount of trans fat in retail food facility food servings, and
  - Promote the availability of calorie and nutritional labeling by retail food facilities on their menus and menu boards.

08013007\_69

Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Director of Public Health  
Director of Health Services+